



DT
#6 1-7-04
Sub/Appe (N.E.)
PATENT
1163-0390P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hirohisa TASAKI Conf.: 3563
Appl. No.: 10/072,892 Group: 2644
Filed: February 12, 2002 Examiner:
For: SPEECH CODING METHOD AND SPEECH CODING
APPARATUS

RECEIVED

DEC 29 2003

TC 2600

RECEIVED

DEC 24 2003

Technology Center 2600

LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 23, 2003

Sir:

Under the provisions of MPEP § 2001.06(b), the Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. Application(s):

<u>Appl. No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Group</u>
10/398,808	April 10, 2003	2641
10/433,354	June 2, 2003	2641

The subject matter contained in the above-listed co-pending U.S. application(s) may be deemed to relate to the present application, and thus may be material to the prosecution of this instant application.

Copies of cited U.S. patent application(s) (specification, claims, and the drawings) or copies of the portion of the

application which caused it to be cited, including any claims directed to that portion are attached hereto.

☐ The materials in the envelope are considered trade secrets and are being submitted for consideration under MPEP § 724.

The above-listed co-pending application(s) is(are) not to be construed as prior art. By bringing the above-listed application(s) to the attention of the Examiner, Applicant(s) do(does) NOT waive any confidentiality concerning the above-listed co-pending application(s) or this application. See MPEP § 101. Furthermore, if said application(s) should not mature into patents, such application(s) should be preserved in secrecy under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.14.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 

Michael K. Mutter, #29,680

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

MKM/lab
1163-0390P
Attachment(s)